

Appl. No. 09/736,925
Amdt. dated September 23, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 1, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for modifying an uncreped throughdried tissue sheet supported by a papermaking fabric, said method comprising removing the dried tissue sheet from the papermaking fabric, modifying the tissue sheet in a nip between two rolls, and transferring the modified sheet to a papermaking fabric which carries the sheet to a reel section for winding the sheet into a parent roll, wherein the sheet is supported at all times by a roll surface or a supporting fabric.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the dried tissue sheet is compressively modified by calendering.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the dried tissue sheet is compressively modified by embossing.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the dried tissue sheet is modified by printing.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein from the time the tissue sheet is removed from the papermaking fabric until the time the tissue is brought into contact with the papermaking fabric that carries the sheet to the reel section, the tissue sheet is in contact with a roll surface.
6. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising removing the dried tissue sheet from the papermaking fabric via a vacuum transfer roll, contacting the sheet with the surface of a rubber-covered backing roll, passing the sheet through a calendering nip between the rubber-covered backing roll and a steel calendering roll, and transferring the calendered tissue sheet to the papermaking fabric that carries the calendered tissue sheet to the reel.

Appl. No. 09/736,925
Amdt. dated September 23, 2003
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7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the nip between the steel calendering roll and the rubber-covered backing roll is a fixed gap.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the nip between the steel calendering roll and the rubber-covered backing roll is loaded.

9.-17. (Cancelled)

18. (New) A method for modifying an uncreped throughdried tissue sheet supported by a papermaking fabric, said method comprising sandwiching the throughdried tissue sheet between the papermaking fabric and a second papermaking fabric, separating the tissue sheet and the second papermaking fabric from the papermaking fabric via a vacuum transfer roll such that the second papermaking fabric is in direct contact with the surface of the vacuum transfer roll, transferring the second papermaking fabric and the tissue sheet to a steel calendering roll such that the tissue sheet is in direct contact with the surface of the steel calendering roll, separating the second papermaking fabric from the tissue sheet, passing the tissue sheet through a nip between the steel calendering roll and a rubber-covered backing roll to calender the sheet, and transferring the calendered tissue sheet from the rubber-covered backing roll to the papermaking fabric that carries the calendered tissue sheet to reel section for winding the sheet into a parent roll, wherein the sheet is supported at all times by a roll surface or a supporting fabric.

19. (New) The method of claim 18 wherein the papermaking fabric carrying the dried sheet to the vacuum transfer roll and the papermaking fabric carrying the calendered sheet to the reel are the same fabric.

Appl. No. 09/736,925
Amdt. dated September 23, 2003
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20. (New) A method for modifying an uncreped throughdried tissue sheet supported by a papermaking fabric, said method comprising removing the dried tissue sheet from the papermaking fabric, transferring the dried sheet from the papermaking fabric to a steel calender roll via a vacuum transfer roll, passing the sheet through a nip between the steel calender roll and a rubber-covered backing roll, and transferring the calendered sheet, via a second vacuum transfer roll, to a papermaking fabric that carries the calendered sheet to a reel section for winding the sheet into a parent roll, wherein the sheet is supported at all times by a roll surface or a supporting fabric.

21. (New) A method for modifying an uncreped throughdried tissue sheet supported by a papermaking fabric, said method comprising removing the dried tissue sheet from the papermaking fabric, modifying the tissue sheet in a nip between two rolls, and transferring the modified sheet to a papermaking fabric which carries the sheet to a reel section for winding the sheet into a parent roll, wherein the sheet is supported at all times by a roll surface or a supporting fabric and wherein, upon removal of the dried tissue sheet from the papermaking fabric, said method further comprising passing the tissue sheet over a support surface, passing the sheet through a calendering nip between a steel calendering roll and a rubber-coated backing roll, passing the calendered sheet over a second support surface, and joining the calendered sheet with a papermaking fabric which carries the calendered sheet to the reel section.

22. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the papermaking fabric from which the dried tissue sheet is removed is the same fabric to which the calendered sheet is joined, which fabric is a throughdrying fabric.

Appl. No. 09/736,925

Amdt. dated September 23, 2003

Reply to Office Action of July 1, 2003

23. (New) A method for modifying an uncreped throughdried tissue sheet supported by a papermaking fabric, contacting the throughdried tissue sheet, while still in contact with the papermaking fabric, with a first calendering roll, separating the tissue sheet from the papermaking fabric, passing the sheet through a nip formed between the first calendering roll and a second calendering roll while traveling in a direction opposite the machine direction of travel, transferring the calendered sheet to the surface of the second calendering roll and reversing the direction of travel of the sheet while in contact with the second calendering roll, separating the calendered sheet from the second calendering roll and joining the calendered sheet with a papermaking fabric that carries the calendered sheet to a reel section for winding the sheet into a parent roll, wherein the sheet is supported at all times by a roll surface or a supporting fabric.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein the first calendering roll is steel and the second calendering roll is a rubber-coated backing roll.

25. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein the first calendering roll is a rubber-coated backing roll and the second calendering roll is steel.

26. (New) The method of claim 23 wherein the papermaking fabric from which the dried tissue sheet is separated is the same fabric to which the calendered sheet is joined, which fabric is a throughdrying fabric.